

Service of Restraining Orders in Neighboring States

Massachusetts:

When assisting a complainant of a restraining order with service of a CT restraining order in MA, refer the victim to either (1) municipal police department where the respondent (offender) of the restraining order resides or (2) the MA State Police where the respondent (offender) of the order resides. By utilizing the local municipal police or state police, there will be no cost associated with service. Do not refer the complainant to the MA Sherriff as the MA Sherriff's handle the county jails and civil process such as custody, divorce and civil process, to which a fee is attached, and as a result, the complainant will be charged a fee up to \$80.00.

Rhode Island:

When assisting a complainant of a restraining order with service of a CT restraining order in RI, refer the victim to the main number for the RI State Sheriff which is (401) 275-2900. The victim can then FAX the order to the main number for the Sheriff which is (401) 275-2914. (In RI, if the police service the order, some RI Judges will not honor the service.) RI will then bill the State of CT, Judicial Branch, for service of the order.

New York:

When assisting a complainant of a restraining order with service of a CT restraining order in NY State, refer the victim to the municipal or state police where the respondent (offender) resides. Although NY allows for a civilian over the age of 18 to serve a restraining order, it is unclear if CT Judges will honor this type of service; therefore the best practice is to direct the complainant of the order to the municipal or state police for service.
